PERIPHERY VISUAL RECOGNIZING DEVICE FOR VEHICLE

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Applicant:

AUTO NETWORK GIJUTSU KENKYUSHO; SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS; SUMITOMO

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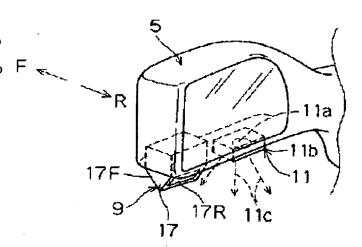
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Abstract of JP2002308014

periphery visual recognizing device for a vehicle capable of picking up an image at night in the condition that the scenery in sides of the vehicle can be visually recognized. SOLUTION: This periphery visual recognizing device 1 for a vehicle is provided with an image pickup device 9 in a lower surface of a door mirror 5 of the vehicle. This image pickup device 9 picks up the scenery near a front and a rear wheels of the vehicle, and the picked up image of the scenery is displayed in a display device inside of the car. A lighting light source 22 is provided in the lower surface of the door mirror 5 of the vehicle, and the lighting light source 11 lights up the scenery near the front and rear wheels of the vehicle 3 as an image pickup range.



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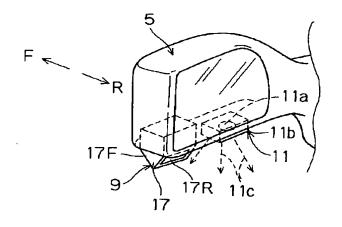
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(54) 【発明の名称】 車両用周辺視認装置

(57)【要約】

【課題】夜間でも車両の側方側景色が視認可能な状態で 撮像できる車両用周辺視認装置を提供する。

【解決手段】 この車両用周辺視認装置1は、車両のドアミラー5の下面に撮像装置9が設置され、この撮像装置9により車両の前後輪付近の景色が撮像され、撮像された景色が車内の表示装置に表示されると共に、車両のドアミラー5の下面に照明光源11が設置され、この照明光源11により撮像装置9の撮像範囲である車両3の前後輪付近の景色が照らし出されるように構成される。



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【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 車両外部に設置され前記車両の側方側景 色を撮像する撮像装置と、

1

前記車両内に設置され前記撮像装置により撮像した前記 景色を表示する表示装置と、

前記車両の側方側部位に設置され前記撮像装置により撮像される前記車両の前記側方側景色を照らし出す照明手段と、を備えることを特徴とする車両用周辺視認装置。

【請求項2】 前記撮像装置は、赤色を含む三原色の色フィルタを有するカラー撮像の撮像素子を備え、この撮 10 像素子により前記照明手段により照らし出される前記車両の前記側方側景色を撮像し、

前記照明手段は、赤色の照明光により前記車両の前記側 方側景色を赤く照らし出すことを特徴とする請求項1に 記載の車両用周辺視認装置。

【請求項3】 前記撮像装置は、色フィルタを有さない 白黒撮像の撮像素子を備え、この撮像素子により前記照 明手段により照らし出される前記車両の前記側方側景色 を撮像し、

前記照明手段は、前記撮像素子の分光感度特性に応じて 20 前記撮像素子の一番相対感度の高い波長の光を照明光と して、前記車両の前記側方側景色を照らし出すことを特 徴とする請求項1に記載の車両用周辺視認装置。

【請求項4】 前記車両のヘッドランプの点灯消灯に応じて前記照明手段を点灯消灯する制御手段を更に備えることを特徴とする請求項1乃至請求項3のいずれかに車両用周辺視認装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】この発明は、車両外部に設置 30 した撮像装置により車両周辺の死角景色を撮像し、撮像した景色を車両内に設置した表示装置に表示する車両用周辺視認装置に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】従来の車両用周辺視認装置の中には、車両の側方側景色を撮像して運転者に提供することで、車両側方側における運転者の死角を無くそうとするものがある。例えば運転席と反対側の前後輪付近の景色を撮像する車両用周辺視認装置では、例えば助手席側のドアミラーに撮像装置を設置し、この撮像装置により助手席側(即ち運転席と反対側)の前後輪付近の景色を撮像し、その撮像画像を車室内に設置した表示装置に表示する構成となっている。

[0003]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】夜間、車両の側方側は、その車両のヘッドランプやテールランプが点灯していても、それらの光が車両の側方側まで届かないため、暗く視認性が悪い。その為、上記の車両用周辺視認装置では、夜間に車両の側方側景色を撮像した場合、表示装置には、暗闇に包まれた状況の車両の側方側景色が表示 50

されるだけで、その表示画像では、車両側方側の状況が 把握できないという問題がある。

【0004】そこで、この発明の課題は、夜間でも車両の側方側景色が視認可能な状態で撮像できる車両用周辺視認装置を提供することにある。

[0005]

【課題を解決するための手段】上記課題を解決するためには、請求項1に記載の発明は、車両外部に設置され前記車両の側方側景色を撮像する撮像装置と、前記車両内に設置され前記撮像装置により撮像した前記景色を表示する表示装置と、前記車両の側方側部位に設置され前記撮像装置により撮像される前記車両の前記側方側景色を照らし出す照明手段と、を備えるものである。

【0006】請求項2に記載の発明は、前記撮像装置は、赤色を含む三原色の色フィルタを有するカラー撮像の撮像素子を備え、この撮像素子により前記照明手段により照らし出される前記車両の前記側方側景色を撮像し、前記照明手段は、赤色の照明光により前記車両の前記側方側景色を赤く照らし出すものである。

【0007】請求項3に記載の発明は、前記撮像装置は、色フィルタを有さない白黒撮像の撮像素子を備え、この撮像素子により前記照明手段により照らし出される前記車両の前記側方側景色を撮像し、前記照明手段は、前記撮像素子の分光感度特性に応じて前記撮像素子の一番相対感度の高い波長の光を照明光として、前記車両の前記側方側景色を照らし出すものである。

【0008】請求項4に記載の発明は、前記車両のヘッドランプの点灯消灯に応じて前記照明手段を点灯消灯する制御手段を更に備えるものである。

[0009]

【発明の実施の形態】以下、本発明の第1の実施の形態を図1乃至図5に基づいて説明する。図1は、本発明の第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置のブロック図であり、図2及び図3はともに、上記車両用周辺視認装置の設置位置を説明する図であり、図4は、上記車両用周辺視認装置に使用される撮像装置の構成を説明する図であり、図5は、上記撮像装置の分光感度特性を説明する図である。

【0010】この実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置1は、図1乃至図3に示す如く、車両外部として例えば車両3の助手席側のドアミラー5に設置され、車両の側方側景色として例えば助手席側の前後輪付近の景色7下,7Rを撮像する撮像装置9と、車両3の側方側部位として例えば車両3の助手席側のドアミラー5に設置され、撮像装置9の撮像範囲である助手席側の前後輪付近の景色7下,7Rを照らし出すための照明光源(照明手段)11と、撮像装置9で撮像した画像に所定の画像処理を施すと共に車両3のヘッドランプ3aの点灯消灯に応じて照明光源11の点灯消灯を制御する処理部(制御手段)13と、車室内に設置され、処理部13で処理し

た画像を表示する表示装置15とを備えて構成される。 【0011】撮像装置9は、例えば図4に示す如く、その下部の前面斜め下側及び後面斜め下側の位置にそれぞれ透過窓17F,17Rが設けられた遮光性のケース17内に、撮像面19aを下方に向けて配置された単一の撮像素子19と、撮像素子19の下方に配置された結像レンズ21と、ケース17の前後の透過窓17F,17Rからそれぞれ映り込む前後輪付近の各景色7F,7Rを結像レンズ21を介して撮像素子19の撮像面19aに投影するプリズム23とを備えて主構成される。ここ 10で、プリズム23は、断面二等辺三角形の柱状に形成され、その二等辺に対応する各プリズム側面23F,23Rをそれぞれケース17の前後の透過窓17F,17Rに対面するように配置される。

【0012】ケース17は、図3及び図4に示す如く、その下部側をドアミラー5の下面から突出し、その上部側をドアミラー5の下部に埋め込むようにしてドアミラー5に設置される。この状態で、ケース17の各透過窓17F,17Rは、ドアミラー5の下面の下方に位置し、それぞれ前方(F方向)斜め下側、後方(R方向)斜め下側を向いて、その各視野範囲(即ちプリズム側面23F,23Rの各視野範囲)に車両3の助手席側の前後輪付近の各景色7F,7Rを含むように配置される。【0013】撮像素子19は、例えば赤緑青(RCB)の三原色の色フィルタを備えたカラーCCDとして構成され、図5に示す如く、赤緑青の三原色を採用した一般的なCCDカメラの有する分光感度特性と同様の分光感

度特性を有する。即ち、この撮像素子19は、結合レンズ21を介して受光した光の成分のうち、赤色の光成分 (特に640nm付近の光の波長成分)に対する光感度 30が、緑色及び青色の各光成分の光感度よりも高い値を示す特性を有する。

【0014】この撮像装置9では、図2及び図4に示す如く、前後の透過窓17F,17Rから撮像装置9内に取り込まれる車両3の前後輪付近の各景色7F,7Rからの光7f,7rはそれぞれ、前後のプリズム側面23F,23Rを透過して反対側のプリズム側面23R,23Fで内面反射してプリズム上面23Uから出射し、結像レンズ21を介してそれぞれ撮像素子19の撮像面19aの前半領域(図4では左半領域)、後半領域(図4では右半領域)に結像する。このようにして、車両3の助手席側の前後輪付近の各景色7F,7Rは、単一の撮像素子19により同時に撮像される。

【0015】そして、撮像素子19から得られる画像信号は、処理部13において反転処理等の所定の処理が施されて表示装置15に出力され、例えば、表示装置15の左半画面15Lにケース17の透過窓17Fを通じて撮像された前輪付近の景色7Fが表示され(図1参照)、表示装置15の右半画面15Rにケース17の透過窓17Pなどによります。

示される。

【0016】照明光源11は、上述の撮像素子19の光感度特性を考慮し、赤色の光(望ましくは640nm付近の波長の光)を照明光11cとして使用するものである。より詳細には、例えば、照明光源11は、ドアミラー5の下面側に取り付けられた赤色の発光ダイオード又は赤色の電球等の赤色発光光源11aと、赤色発光光源を下方側から覆うようにしてドアミラー5の下面に装着された透明性の外装ケース11bとを備えて構成される。

【0017】この照明光源11は、ここではドアミラー5の下面に位置し、その位置から放射状にその照明光11cを照射することで、車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rを含む車両3の側方側景色14を赤く照らし出す。

【0018】処理部13は、例えばヘッドランプ3aを点灯消灯するためのヘッドランプスイッチ3bのオンオフ状態を検知し、これで夜間又は昼間を判断し、ヘッドランプスイッチ3bがオン状態、即ちヘッドランプ3aが点灯状態(即ち夜間)のときだけ照明光源11を点灯させて、照明光源11の照明光11cにより車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rを赤く照らし出させる。

【0019】次に、上記車両用周辺視認装置1の動作を 説明する。

【0020】夜間、運転者によりヘッドランプスイッチ3bがオンされてヘッドランプ3aが点灯されると、そのヘッドランプスイッチ3bのオン状態が処理部13により検知され(即ち夜間と判断され)、そのオン状態を検知した処理部13により照明光源11が点灯され、その照明光源11の赤色の照明光11cにより、車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが赤く照らし出される。

【0021】そして、その赤く照らし出された車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rからの光7f,7rが、撮像装置11の前後の透過窓17F,17Rに取り込まれ、上述のようにして撮像素子19の撮像面19aに結像されて、車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが撮像されて表示装置15に表示される。

【0022】より詳細には、赤く照らし出された車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rからの光7f,7rは、赤を基調とした光により構成されているため、それら光7f,7rは、図5に示した撮像素子19の分光感度特性により、高感度に撮像素子19の撮像面19aに受光され、高輝度に車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが撮像されて鮮明に表示装置15に表示される。このように、夜間、車両3の側方側景色7F,7Rが暗くて、それら景色7F,7Rが視認可能に撮像できない状況では、照明光源11によりそれら景色7F,7Rが赤く照らし出されて鮮明に撮像される。

照)、表示装置15の右半画面15Rにケース17の透 【0023】他方、昼間、ヘッドランプスイッチ3bが 過窓17Rを通じて撮像された後輪付近の景色7Rが表 50 オフされてヘッドランプ3aが消灯されると、そのヘッ ドランプスイッチ3bのオフ状態が処理部13により検知され(即ち昼間と判断され)、そのオフ状態を検知した処理部13により照明光源11が消灯される。この場合、日中の太陽光により車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが明るく照らし出されており、その太陽光により照らし出された車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが、上述のようにして撮像装置9により撮像されて表示装置15に表示される。

【0024】このように、昼間、車両3の側方側景色7 F,7Rが明るくて、その景色7F,7Rが視認可能に 10 撮像できる状況では、照明光源11は不要なので消灯される。

【0025】以上のように構成された車両用周辺視認装置1によれば、車両3の助手席側のドアミラー5の下面に撮像装置9が設置され、この撮像装置9により車両3の助手席側の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが撮像され、撮像された景色7F,7Rが表示装置15に表示されると共に、車両3の助手席側のドアミラー5の下面に照明光源11が設置され、この照明光源11により撮像装置9の撮像範囲である車両の助手席側の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが照らし出されるようになっているため、夜間、撮像装置9の撮像範囲である車両の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rが暗く視認可能に撮像できない状況でも、照明光源11の照明光11cにより車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rを照らし出して視認可能に撮像して表示することができる。

【0026】更に、照明光源11は、撮像装置9の撮像素子19の分光感度特性を考慮し、カラー撮像である撮像素子19の一番相対感度の高い赤色の光を照明光11 cに使用しているため、その照明光11cにより照らし出された車両の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rを、撮像装置9により高輝度に撮像して表示装置15に鮮明に表示することができる。

【0027】更に、車両30へッドライト3aの点灯消灯に応じて照明光源11を点灯消灯させるため、ヘッドライト3aの点灯消灯を利用して昼間か夜間かの判断ができ、照明光11cの必要な夜間だけ照明光源11を点灯させることができる。

【0028】なお、この実施の形態では、撮像装置9として、車両3のドアミラー5の下面に設置され、その車 40両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rを同時に撮像する場合で説明したが、そのように限定するものではない。車両3の側方側景色を撮像する撮像装置であれば、どのような撮像装置であっても構わない。

【0029】また、この実施の形態では、照明光源11をドアミラー5の下面に設置した場合で説明したが、車両3の前後輪付近の景色7F,7Rを照らし出すことができる車両3の部位なら、車両3の何処に設置しても構わない。一般的には、撮像装置9が車両3の側方側景色のうちのどの範囲を撮像するかに応じ、その範囲が適切50

に照らし出すことができる車両3の側方側部位なら車両3のどの位置に照明光源11を設置しても構わない。

【0030】また、この実施の形態では、照明光源11の照明光11cを赤色の光にする手段として、赤色の発光ダイオード又は赤色の電球等の赤色発光光源11aを用い、その赤色発光光源11aを透明性を有する外装ケース11bでカバーする構成をとったが、発光光源11aとして白色電球を用いて外装ケース11b自体を赤系の透明性を有するもとして構成しても構わない。

【0031】また、この実施の形態では、撮像素子19 として、赤青緑の三原色の色フィルタを持ち、図5に示 したように、赤色に対する相対感度が一番高い分光感度 特性を有する一般的なカラーCCDを用いた場合で説明 したため、照明光源11として赤色の光を照明光とする 場合で説明したが、例えば撮像素子19が、カラーCC Dではなく、例えば図6に示すような分光感度特性を有 する白黒撮像の(即ち色フィルタを持たない)白黒CC Dとして構成された場合は、図6の分光感度特性を考慮 し、一番相対感度の高い波長(図6では約500nm) を含む帯域の光を、照明光11cとするように照明光源 11を構成すればよい。その具体的な構成例としては、 例えば、赤色発光光源11aの代わりに、上記帯域の光 を発する発光ダイオード又は電球等の発光光源を用いて 照明光源11を構成すればよい。また、例えば図7に示 すようなの分光感度特性を有する白黒撮像の白黒CCD として構成された場合は、図7の分光感度特性を考慮 し、一番相対感度の高い700nm付近の赤色波長を中 心とし、その右側の近赤外線領域からその左側の近傍領 域内の光を、照明光11cとするように照明光源11を 構成すればよい。また、分光感度特性のグラフは示さな いが、その分光感度特性として赤外線領域の光の相対感 度が一番高くなるような白黒撮像の白黒CCDとして構 成された場合は、発光光源11aとして例えば赤外線L EDを使用して、赤外線帯域の光を照明光11cするよ に照明光源11を構成すればよい。これらの場合も、そ の白黒撮像の撮像素子19の一番相対感度の高い波長の 光を照明光11cに使用するため、その照明光11cに より照らし出した車両の側方側景色を、撮像装置9によ り高輝度に撮像して表示装置15に鮮明に表示すること ができる。

【0032】なお、この実施の形態では、撮像素子19をCCDカメラとして構成した場合で説明したが、CMOSカメラとして構成しても構わない。

[0033]

【発明の効果】請求項1に記載の発明によれば、車両外部に撮像装置が設置され、この撮像装置により車両の側方側景色が撮像され、撮像された景色が表示装置に表示されると共に、車両の側方側部位に照明手段が設置され、この照明手段により撮像装置の撮像範囲である車両の側方側景色が照らし出されるようになっているため、

夜間、撮像装置の撮像範囲である車両の側方側景気が暗く視認可能に撮像できない状況でも、照明手段の照明光により車両の側方側景色を照らし出して視認可能に撮像して表示することができる。

【0034】請求項2に記載の発明によれば、照明手段は、撮像装置のカラー撮像の撮像素子の分光感度特性を考慮し、その撮像素子の一番相対感度の高い赤色の光を照明光に使用しているため、その照明光により照らし出した車両の側方側景色を、撮像装置により高輝度に撮像して表示装置に鮮明に表示することができる。

【0035】請求項3に記載の発明によれば、照明手段は、撮像装置の白黒撮像の撮像素子の分光感度特性を考慮し、その撮像素子の一番相対感度の高い波長の光を照明光に使用しているため、その照明光により照らし出した車両の側方側景色を、撮像装置により高輝度に撮像して表示装置に鮮明に表示することができる。

【0036】請求項4に記載の発明によれば、車両のヘッドライトの点灯消灯に応じて照明手段を点灯消灯させるため、ヘッドライトの点灯消灯状態を利用して昼間か夜間かの判断ができ、照明光の必要な夜間だけ照明手段 20を点灯させることができる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置の ブロック図である。

【図2】第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置を 構成する撮像装置及び照明光源の各設置位置を説明する 図である。 *【図3】第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置を 構成する撮像装置及び照明光源の各設置位置を説明する 他の図である。

【図4】第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置に 使用される撮像装置の構成を説明する図である。

【図5】第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置に 使用される撮像装置の分光感度特性を説明する図であ る。

【図6】第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置に 10 使用される撮像装置の変形例の分光感度特性を説明する 図である。

【図7】第1の実施の形態に係る車両用周辺視認装置に 使用される撮像装置の他の変形例の分光感度特性を説明 する図である。

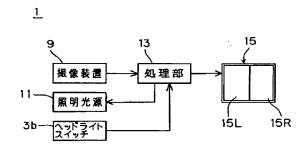
【符号の説明】

- 1 車両用周辺視認装置
- 3 車両
- 3 a ヘッドランプ
- 5 ドアミラー
-) 7F,7R 前後輪付近の景色

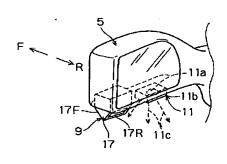
7 f , 7 r 前後輪付近の景色からの光

- 9 撮像装置
- 11 照明光源
- 11c 照明光
- 15 表示装置
- 19 撮像素子

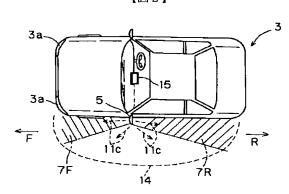
【図1】

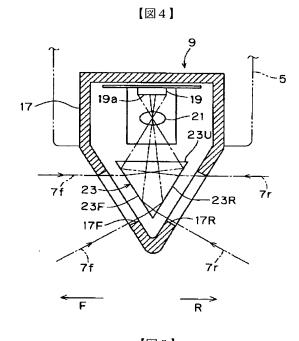


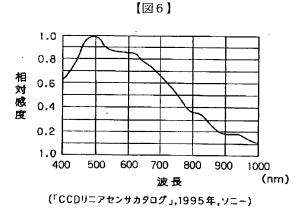
[図3]

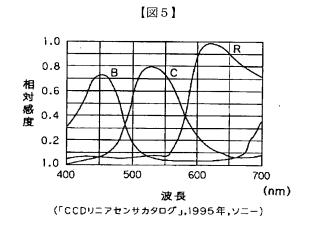


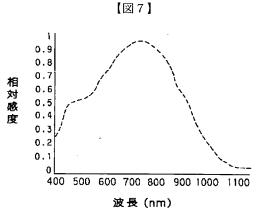












(株式会社 日立国際電気,白黒近赤外プログレッシブ スキャンカメラ (KP-F2) 感度特性)

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars characterized by to have the lighting means which begins to illuminate said side scene of the image pick-up equipment which is installed in the car exterior and picturizes the side scene of said car, the display which displays said scene which it was installed in said car and picturized with said image pick-up equipment, and said car which is installed at least in the side flank of said car and is picturized by said image pick-up equipment.

[Claim 2] It is peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars according to claim 1 which said image pick-up equipment is equipped with the image sensor of the color image pick-up which has a color filter containing red in three primary colors, picturizes said side side scene of said car which begins to be illuminated by said lighting means with this image sensor, and is characterized by said lighting means beginning to illuminate said side scene of said car red by the red illumination light.

[Claim 3] It is peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars according to claim 1 which said image pick-up equipment is equipped with the image sensor of monochrome image pick-up which does not have a color filter, said side side scene of said car which begins to be illuminated by said lighting means with this image sensor is picturized, and said lighting means makes the illumination light light of the wavelength with the highest relative sensibility of said image sensor according to the spectral sensitivity characteristic of said image sensor, and is characterized by to begin to illuminate said side side scene of said car.

[Claim 4] It is peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars in either claim 1 characterized by having further the control means which carries out lighting putting out lights of said lighting means according to lighting putting out lights of the head lamp of said car thru/or claim 3.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention] [0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars which picturizes the dead angle scene of the car circumference with the image pick-up equipment installed in the car exterior, and displays the picturized scene on the display installed in the car. [0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] There is some conventional peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars which is going to lose the dead angle of the operator by the side of the car side by picturizing the side side scene of a car and providing for an operator. For example, with the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars which picturizes the scene near a driver's seat and opposite side order ring, image pick-up equipment is installed, for example in the door mirror of a passenger side, the scene near a passenger side (namely, driver's seat and the opposite side) order ring is picturized with this image pick-up equipment, and it has composition displayed on the display which installed that image pick-up image in the vehicle interior of a room.

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] Since those light does not reach the side side of a car even if the head lamp and tail lamp of the car are on, the Nighttime and side side of a car has darkly bad visibility. When the side side scene of a car is picturized with the above peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars at Nighttime for the reason, the problem that the situation by the side of the car side cannot be grasped with the display image only by the side scene of the car of the situation wrapped in darkness being displayed is shown in a display.

[0004] Then, the technical problem of this invention is to offer the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars which can be picturized in the condition that the side side scene of a car can also check Nighttime by looking.

[0005]

[Means for Solving the Problem] It has the lighting means which begins to illuminate said side side scene of said car which is installed at least in the image pick-up equipment which invention according to claim 1 is installed in the car exterior, and picturizes the side side scene of said car, the display which displays said scene which it was installed in said car and picturized with said image pick-up equipment, and the side flank of said car in order to solve the above-mentioned technical problem, and is picturized by said image pick-up equipment.

[0006] Invention according to claim 2 is equipped with the image sensor of the color image pick-up which has the color filter in three primary colors with which said image pick-up equipment contains red, and picturizes said side side scene of said car which begins to be illuminated by said lighting means with this image sensor, and said lighting means begins to illuminate said side side scene of said car red by the red illumination light.

[0007] Said side scene of said car with which invention according to claim 3 is equipped with the image sensor of monochrome image pick-up with which said image pick-up equipment does not have a color filter, and begins to be compared by said lighting means with this image sensor is picturized, and said lighting means begins to illuminate said side scene of said car according to the spectral sensitivity characteristic of said image sensor by making light of the wavelength with the highest relative sensibility of said image sensor into the illumination light.

[0008] Invention according to claim 4 is further equipped with the control means which carries out lighting putting out lights of said lighting means according to lighting putting out lights of the head lamp of said car.

[0009]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the gestalt of operation of the 1st of this invention is explained based on <u>drawing 1</u> thru/or <u>drawing 5</u>. <u>Drawing 1</u> is the block diagram of the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of operation of the 1st of this invention, both <u>drawing 2</u> and <u>drawing 3</u> are drawings explaining the installation location of the abovementioned peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars, <u>drawing 4</u> is drawing explaining the configuration of the image pick-up equipment used for the above-mentioned peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars, and <u>drawing 5</u> is drawing explaining the spectral sensitivity characteristic of the above-mentioned image pick-up equipment.

[0010] The peripheral vision private seal equipment 1 for cars concerning the gestalt of this operation As shown in <u>drawing 1</u> thru/or <u>drawing 3</u>, it is installed in the door mirror 5 of the passenger side of a car 3 as the car exterior. As a side side scene of a car For example, the image pick-up equipment 9 which picturizes the scenes 7F and 7R near a passenger side order ring, The source 11 of the illumination light for supposing that it is at least as the side flank of a car 3, for example, being installed in the door mirror 5 of the passenger side of a car 3, and beginning to illuminate the scenes 7F and 7R near the passenger side order ring which is the image pick-up range of image pick-up equipment 9 (lighting means), It is installed in the vehicle interior of a room with the processing section (control means) 13 which controls lighting putting out lights of the source 11 of the illumination light according to lighting putting out lights of head-lamp 3a of a car 3 while performing a predetermined image processing to the image picturized with image pick-up equipment 9, and it has the display 15 which displays the image processed in the processing section 13, and is constituted.

[0011] As image pick-up equipment 9 is shown in <u>drawing 4</u>, respectively in the location of the front slant and rear-face slant bottom of the lower part in the transparency aperture 17 case 17 of the protection-from-light nature in which F and 17R were prepared The single image sensor 19 which turned image pick-up side 19a caudad, and has been arranged, and the image formation lens 21 arranged under the image sensor 19, It has the prism 23 which projects each scenes 7F and 7R near a ring before and after being reflected, respectively from the transparency apertures 17F and 17R before and behind a case 17 on image pick-up side 19a of an image sensor 19 through the image formation lens 21, and is main-constituted. Here, prism 23 is formed in the shape of [of a cross-section isosceles triangle] a column, and it is arranged so that the transparency apertures 17F and 17R before and behind a case 17 may be met, respectively in each prism side faces 23F and 23R corresponding to the 2 equilateral.

[0012] As are shown in drawing 3 and drawing 4, and the lower part side is embedded from the inferior surface of tongue of a door mirror 5 at a projection and a case 17 embeds the upper part side in the lower part of a door mirror 5, it is installed in a door mirror 5. In this condition, each transparency apertures 17F and 17R of a case 17 be locate down the inferior surface of tongue of a door mirror 5, and turn to the front (direction of F) slant, and back (direction of R) slant bottom, respectively, and it be arrange so that each scenes 7F and 7R near the passenger side order ring of a car 3 may be include in each of that visual field range (namely, each visual field range of the prism side faces 23F and 23R).

[0013] An image sensor 19 is constituted as a color CCD equipped with the color filter of for example, red-green blue (RCB) in three primary colors, and as shown in <u>drawing 5</u>, it has the spectral sensitivity characteristic which the common CCD camera which adopted the three primary colors of red-green blue has, and the same spectral sensitivity characteristic. That is, this image sensor 19 has the property which shows the value with the photosensitivity higher than the photosensitivity of each optical green and blue component to a part for red Mitsunari (especially wavelength component of the light near 640nm) among the components of the light which received light through the joint lens 21.

[0014] As shown in <u>drawing 2</u> and <u>drawing 4</u>, the light 7f and 7r from each scenes 7F and 7R near the car 3 order ring incorporated with this image pick-up equipment 9 in the transparency aperture 17

image pick-up equipment 9 from F and 17R of order, respectively Penetrate the prism side faces 23F and 23R of order, carry out internal reflection on the prism side faces 23R and 23F of the opposite side, and outgoing radiation is carried out from prism top-face 23U. Image formation is carried out to a field (<u>drawing 4</u> right half field) through the image formation lens 21 the first half field (<u>drawing 4</u> left half field) of image pick-up side 19a of an image sensor 19, and the second half, respectively. Thus, each scenes 7F and 7R near the passenger side order ring of a car 3 are picturized by coincidence with the single image sensor 19.

[0015] And the picture signal acquired from an image sensor 19 Predetermined processing of a reversal process etc. is performed in the processing section 13, and it is outputted to a display 15. For example, scene 7F near [which was picturized by left half screen 15L of a display 15 through transparency aperture 17F of a case 17] a front wheel are displayed (refer to drawing 1), and scene 7R near [which was picturized by right half screen 15R of a display 15 through transparency aperture 17R of a case 17] a rear wheel is displayed.

[0016] In consideration of the photosensitivity property of the above-mentioned image sensor 19, a red light (desirably light of the wavelength near 640nm) is used for the source 11 of the illumination light as illumination-light 11c. More, the source 11 of the illumination light is equipped with red luminescence light source 11a, such as red light emitting diode attached in the inferior-surface-of-tongue side of a door mirror 5, or a red electric bulb, and sheathing case 11b of the transparency with which the inferior surface of tongue of a door mirror 5 was equipped as covered the red luminescence light source from the lower part side, and is constituted by the detail.

[0017] This source 11 of the illumination light is located in the inferior surface of tongue of a door

[0017] This source 11 of the illumination light is located in the inferior surface of tongue of a door mirror 5 here, is irradiating that illumination-light 11c from that location at a radial, and begins to illuminate the side side scene 14 of the car 3 including the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring red.

[0018] The processing section 13 detects the on-off condition of head-lamp switch 3b for carrying out lighting putting out lights for example, of the head-lamp 3a, and judges night or daytime now, head-lamp switch 3b makes the source 11 of the illumination light turn on, only when ON state, i.e., head lamp, 3a is in a lighting condition (namely, night), and it makes it begin to illuminate the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring red by illumination-light 11c of the source 11 of the illumination light.

[0019] Next, actuation of the above-mentioned peripheral vision private seal equipment 1 for cars is explained.

[0020] if head-lamp switch 3b is turned on by Nighttime and the operator and head-lamp 3a is turned on, the source 11 of the illumination light will be turned on by the processing section 13 as which the ON state of the head-lamp switch 3b was detected by the processing section 13 (that is, it is judged as Nighttime -- having), and detected the ON state, and the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring will begin to be illuminated by illumination-light 11c of the red of the source 11 of the illumination light red.

[0021] And the light 7f and 7r from the scenes 7F and 7R near the car 3 order ring which began to be illuminated red is incorporated by the transparency apertures 17F and 17R before and behind image pick-up equipment 11, image formation is carried out as mentioned above to image pick-up side 19a of an image sensor 19, the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring are picturized, and it is displayed on a display 15.

[0022] The light 7f and 7r from the scenes 7F and 7R near the car 3 order ring which began to be compared more with a detail red Since it is constituted by the light which made red the keynote, these light 7f and 7r Light is received by high sensitivity at image pick-up side 19a of an image sensor 19, the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring are picturized by high brightness, and it is vividly displayed on a display 15 by the spectral sensitivity characteristic of the image sensor 19 shown in drawing 5. Thus, in the situation that it can be dark and Nighttime and the side side scenes 7F and 7R of a car 3 cannot picturize these scenes 7F and 7R possible [a check by looking], these scenes 7F and 7R begin to be illuminated red by the source 11 of the illumination light, and it is picturized vividly.

[0023] on the other hand, if day ranges and head-lamp switch 3b are turned off and head-lamp 3a is switched off, the source 11 of the illumination light will be switched off by the processing section 13

as which the OFF state of the head-lamp switch 3b was detected by the processing section 13 (that is, it is judged as day ranges -- having), and detected the OFF state. In this case, the scenes 7F and 7R near the car 3 order ring which the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring are beginning to be brightly illuminated by sunlight in the daytime, and began to be illuminated by that sunlight are picturized by image pick-up equipment 9 as mentioned above, and are displayed on a display 15. [0024] Thus, in the situation which day ranges and the side side scenes 7F and 7R of a car 3 can picturize it is bright and possible [a check by looking of the scenes 7F and 7R], since the source 11 of the illumination light is unnecessary, it is switched off.

[0025] According to the peripheral vision private seal equipment 1 for cars constituted as mentioned above, image pick-up equipment 9 is installed in the inferior surface of tongue of the door mirror 5 of the passenger side of a car 3. While the scenes 7F and 7R near the passenger side order ring of a car 3 are picturized by this image pick-up equipment 9 and the picturized scenes 7F and 7R are displayed on a display 15 In order to install the source 11 of the illumination light in the inferior surface of tongue of the door mirror 5 of the passenger side of a car 3 and for the scenes 7F and 7R near the passenger side order ring of the car which is the image pick-up range of image pick-up equipment 9 to begin to illuminate by this source 11 of the illumination light, At night, also in the situation which the scenes 7F and 7R near the car order ring which is the image pick-up range of image pick-up equipment 9 cannot picturize it is dark and possible [a check by looking], it is begun by illumination-light 11c of the source 11 of the illumination light to illuminate the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring, and it can picturize possible [a check by looking] and can display. [0026] Furthermore, since the source 11 of the illumination light is using the light of the red with the highest relative sensibility of the image sensor 19 which is a color image pick-up for illuminationlight 11c in consideration of the spectral sensitivity characteristic of the image sensor 19 of image pick-up equipment 9, it can picturize the scenes 7F and 7R near the car order ring which began to be illuminated by the illumination-light 11c in high brightness with image pick-up equipment 9, and can display them on a display 15 vividly.

[0027] Furthermore, since lighting putting out lights of the source 11 of the illumination light is carried out according to lighting putting out lights of headlight 3a of a car 3, that decision can be performed in daytime or the night using lighting putting out lights of headlight 3a, and the source 11 of the illumination light can be made to turn on only in the required night of illumination-light 11c. [0028] In addition, although the gestalt of this operation explained by the case where it is installed in the inferior surface of tongue of the door mirror 5 of a car 3, and the scenes 7F and 7R near that car 3 order ring are picturized to coincidence as image pick-up equipment 9, it does not limit such. As long as it is image pick-up equipment which picturizes the side side scene of a car 3, you may be what kind of image pick-up equipment.

[0029] Moreover, although the gestalt of this operation explained by the case where the source 11 of the illumination light is installed in the inferior surface of tongue of a door mirror 5, you may install anywhere [of the part of the car 3 which can begin to illuminate the scenes 7F and 7R near a car 3 order ring] in a car 3. Generally, according to which range of the side side scenes of a car 3 image pick-up equipment 9 picturizes, if it is only the side flank of the car 3 which the range can begin to illuminate appropriately, the source 11 of the illumination light may be installed in the location of car 3 throat.

[0030] Moreover, although the configuration which covers that red luminescence light source 11a by sheathing case 11b which has transparency was taken with the gestalt of this operation, using red luminescence light source 11a, such as red light emitting diode or a red electric bulb, as a means which makes a red light illumination-light 11c of the source 11 of the illumination light Using a white lamp as luminescence light source 11a, it has reddish transparency, and the basis of the sheathing case 11b itself may be carried out, and it may be constituted.

[0031] moreover -- the gestalt of this operation -- as an image sensor 19 -- red and blue, since it explained by the case where the general color CCD which has the spectral sensitivity characteristic with the highest relative sensibility to red is used as it has a green color filter in three primary colors and was shown in <u>drawing 5</u> Although a red light was explained by the case where it considers as the illumination light, as a source 11 of the illumination light For example, when an image sensor 19 is constituted as black and white (that is, it does not have a color filter) CCD of monochrome image

pick-up which has not the color CCD but the spectral sensitivity characteristic as shown in drawing 6 What is necessary is just to constitute the source 11 of the illumination light so that light of the band containing wavelength with the highest relative sensibility (drawing 6 about 500nm) may be set to illumination-light 11c in consideration of the spectral sensitivity characteristic of drawing 6. What is necessary is just to constitute the source 11 of the illumination light, for example instead of red luminescence light source 11a as the concrete example of a configuration using the luminescence light sources, such as light emitting diode which emits the light of the above-mentioned band, or an electric bulb. Moreover, what is necessary is just to constitute the source 11 of the illumination light in consideration of the spectral sensitivity characteristic of drawing 7 so that light in the near field of the left-hand side may be set to illumination-light 11c from the near infrared ray field of the righthand side a core [the red wavelength near / where relative sensibility is the highest / 700nm] when constituted as black and white CCD of monochrome image pick-up which has the thing spectral sensitivity characteristic as shown, for example in drawing 7. Moreover, what is necessary is to use for example, the infrared radiation LED as luminescence light source 11a, and just to constitute the source 11 of the illumination light in ** which illumination-light 11c Carries out light of an infrared band, when constituted as black and white CCD of monochrome image pick-up to which the relative sensibility of the light of an infrared field becomes the highest as the spectral sensitivity characteristic although the graph of the spectral sensitivity characteristic is not shown. Since the light of the wavelength with the highest relative sensibility of the image sensor 19 of the monochrome image pick-up is used for illumination-light 11c also in these cases, the side scene of the car which it began to illuminate by the illumination-light 11c can be picturized in high brightness with image pick-up equipment 9, and can be vividly displayed on a display 15.

[0032] In addition, although the image sensor 19 was explained by the case where it constitutes as a CCD camera, you may constitute from a gestalt of this operation as a CMOS camera. [0033]

[Effect of the Invention] While according to invention according to claim 1 image pick-up equipment is installed in the car exterior, the side side scene of a car is picturized by this image pick-up equipment and the picturized scene is displayed on a display In order to install a lighting means at least in the side flank of a car and for the side side scene of the car which is the image pick-up range of image pick-up equipment to begin to illuminate with this lighting means, At night, also in the situation which cannot be picturized it is dark and possible [a check by looking], it is begun by the illumination light of a lighting means to illuminate the side side scene of a car, and the side side business of the car which is the image pick-up range of image pick-up equipment can picturize possible [a check by looking], and can display.

[0034] According to invention according to claim 2, since the light of the red with the highest relative sensibility of the image sensor is used for the illumination light in consideration of the spectral sensitivity characteristic of the image sensor of a color image pick-up of image pick-up equipment, a lighting means can picturize the side side scene of the car which it began to illuminate by the illumination light in high brightness with image pick-up equipment, and can display it on a display vividly.

[0035] According to invention according to claim 3, since the light of the wavelength with the highest relative sensibility of the image sensor is used for the illumination light in consideration of the spectral sensitivity characteristic of the image sensor of monochrome image pick-up of image pick-up equipment, a lighting means can picturize the side side scene of the car which it began to illuminate by the illumination light in high brightness with image pick-up equipment, and can display it on a display vividly.

[0036] Since lighting putting out lights of the lighting means is carried out according to lighting putting out lights of the headlight of a car, that decision can be performed in daytime or the night using the lighting putting-out-lights condition of a headlight, and a lighting means can be made to turn on only in the required night of the illumination light according to invention according to claim 4.

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the block diagram of the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation.

[Drawing 2] It is drawing explaining the image pick-up equipment which constitutes the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation, and each installation location of the source of the illumination light.

[Drawing 3] They are other drawings explaining the image pick-up equipment which constitutes the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation, and each installation location of the source of the illumination light.

[Drawing 4] It is drawing explaining the configuration of the image pick-up equipment used for the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation.

[Drawing 5] It is drawing explaining the spectral sensitivity characteristic of the image pick-up equipment used for the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation.

[<u>Drawing 6</u>] It is drawing explaining the spectral sensitivity characteristic of the modification of the image pick-up equipment used for the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation.

[Drawing 7] It is drawing explaining the spectral sensitivity characteristic of other modifications of the image pick-up equipment used for the peripheral vision private seal equipment for cars concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation.

[Description of Notations]

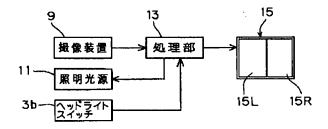
- 1 Peripheral Vision Private Seal Equipment for Cars
- 3 Car
- 3a Head lamp
- 5 Door Mirror
- 7F, 7R Scene near an order ring
- 7f, 7r Light from the scene near an order ring
- 9 Image Pick-up Equipment
- 11 Source of Illumination Light
- 11c Illumination light
- 15 Display
- 19 Image Sensor

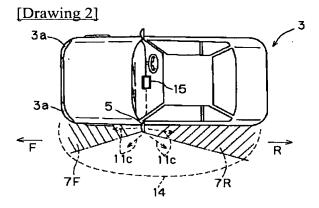
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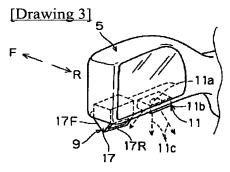
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DRAWINGS

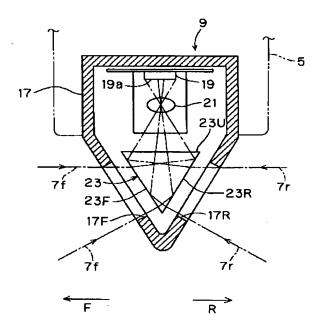
[Drawing 1]

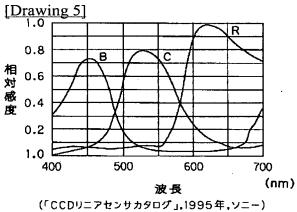


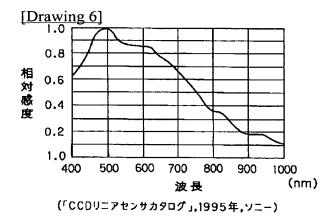




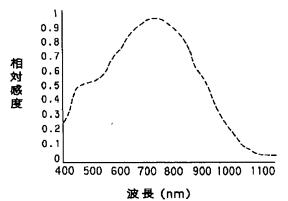
[Drawing 4]







[Drawing 7]



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